



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

NEWS

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Holiday Roadway Travel Raises the Risk of Air Pollution

The holiday travel rush is here and this season people are driving more than ever. The American Automobile Association estimates that 79% of holiday travelers will choose to drive.

Air quality officials are concerned about car exhaust—a major source of air pollution during the wintertime. Pollution is not only created by motor vehicles, but also increased by woodsmoke from fireplaces. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District wants to remind people that pollution from cars and fireplaces is a problem – especially during the holiday season.

From late November through January the Bay Area experiences its highest concentrations of winter air pollution. According to Ellen Garvey of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, "The major sources for these pollutants are automobile exhaust, woodstoves, and traditional fireplaces. The fine particulate matter emitted from these sources can become trapped deep in your lungs and cause respiratory problems."

"This year, give friends or relatives a lift to a party or dinner. You'll spend more time together and help keep the air clean by carpooling," suggests Garvey.

Winter Clean Air Tips:

- Car pool to holiday destinations
- Avoid unnecessary car trips
- Take public transportation
- Don't burn wood

For a free Woodburning Handbook call 1 800 Help-Air.

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